

# Torrance Growing at Spectacular Rate

## 1000 New Residents Move Here Each Month

Torrance which started as a little town in 1911, ambled along drowsily for 30 years. Suddenly in 1940, it started to rouse from its slumbers until today all its civic senses are sharply and vitally awake.

In 1940 only 9950 residents lived within Torrance's 18.88 square miles. Today an estimated 75,000 individuals live within the city's boundaries.

Torrance is becoming a residential, commercial, and industrial giant.

A total of 1600 residents are moving into the city every month. The influx of new residents is expected to continue until the Torrance population reaches from 100,000, to 150,000.

new homes is in prospect at the present time, representing a value of about \$15,000,000, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Of these homes about 750 will be built by Kauffman-Wilson construction company, 300 by Ellinwood; 200 by Grand Construction company, and several smaller developments, he stated.

**Shopping Areas**  
Shopping centers are being

Improved, planned and constructed.

Merchants in downtown Torrance have recently completed an overall facelifting and modernizing program for their stores. They have also taken major steps to solve the parking problem by planning to provide more off street parking and through the installation of parking meters with the aid of the City Council.

Major multi-million dollar shopping centers are under construction or will start shortly in the Torrance area.

The South Bay shopping center, at Hawthorne and Redondo Beach boulevard, will see the location of the May company in this area.

The 35-acre airport triangle shopping center at Crenshaw and Pacific Coast highway will also feature a top name depart-

ment store plus many other name stores.

Both shopping centers will feature the latest facilities in shopping convenience, plus acres of parking area.

Other commercial projects to be undertaken this year include a large hotel in Hollywood Riviera which will represent an investment of around half a million dollars; a large bowling alley and stores valued at \$280,000, to be constructed at Western avenue south of Carson street; and additions to the Torrance Memorial hospital costing about half a million dollars, City Manager George Stevens stated.

**Industrial Center**  
Torrance is the center of 150 industries, including such major firms as Columbia-Geneva Steel (U.S. Steel), National Supply company, General Petroleum, Bethlehem Steel, Douglas aircraft, and Harvey Aluminum among others.

Planning expansion in the near future is Carbon and Carbide company as well as the National Supply company, according to Stevens and the Torrance Building Department.

The newest major industry to locate here shortly is Reynolds Aluminum company which has purchased the Pacific Electric shops to be converted into an aluminum manufacturing industry.

**City and School Construction**  
Civic and school construction have experienced an equally fabulous development.

A new civic center, including a city hall and police station to be located at Torrance boulevard and Maple, is scheduled for completion by August.

The city has also just completed two new fire stations and remodeled a third. About half a million dollars are being spent for park and recreation improvements, including a

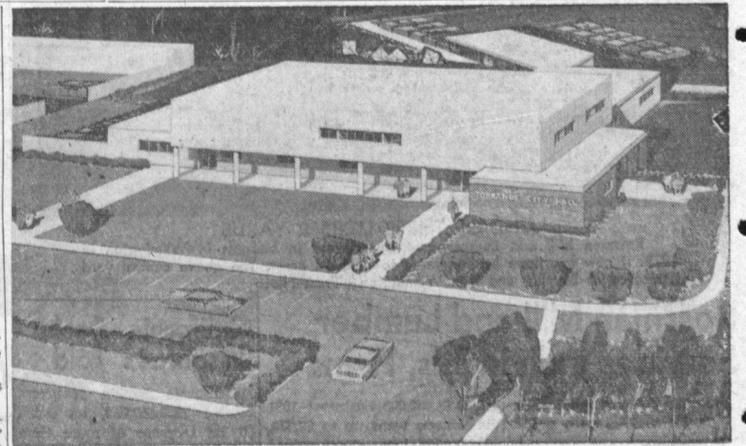
swimming pool on the new civic center.

Torrance which set up its own Unified School District in 1947 has seen an increase in the number of schools from four elementary schools and one high school to 16 elementary schools, two high schools and one evening school.

The school population has grown as rapidly as the city's overall population. In 1947 there were only 2072 school children. Now there are 16,019 students enrolled. Estimated enrollment by February 1947 is placed at 20,162, according to school officials.

What has caused this tremendous influx and why are people clamoring to live in Torrance?

City Manager George Stevens appears to have the answer. "It's a combination of industry and living conditions," he said. "A lot of industrial cities are not nice to live in. But Torrance is. It is an attractive town and it has an excellent climate—no extremes of heat or cold. We have absolute comfort here—in other cities people are either wiping their eyes or suffering from the heat during the summer."



**NEW CIVIC CENTER**

Torrance's new city hall as it will look when completed next April. Provision has been made in the structure for the addition of a second floor and for more wings, according to Marion J. Varner, Pasadena architect, who designed this structure and the adjoining police station. The building will contain 20,000 square feet and will be constructed of reinforced brick and pre-cast, reinforced concrete panels.

**COMPLIMENTS OF PALOS VERDES Properties**

**No. 2 Portuguese Bend Post ROLLING HILLS**

## Schools Set New Math Teacher Plan

An important step to alleviate an increasingly critical shortage of high school mathematics teachers was taken by the City Board of Education this week.

Upon recommendation of Superintendent of Schools Claude L. Reeves, members of the Board approved establishment of a special in-service training workshop in the teaching of arithmetic and applied mathematics, school officials announced.

The workshop, which will be held during May of this year, will be set up for the benefit of high school teachers who are non-mathematics specialists but have had some college training in this field.

These teachers, according to Associate Superintendent Robert E. Kelly, in charge of the system's high schools, are now teaching one or two periods of mathematics daily.

Following completion of the workshop, these same teachers next fall will be able to carry a full load of mathematics classes.

## New Carbide-Carbon Plant to Open Soon

Construction and operating crews are putting final touches on the Torrance plant of Carbide and Carbon corporation, officials announced.

The new chemical plant will produce ethylene oxide, father of an immense family of other chemicals; and polyethylene, a widely used plastic resin. In addition, the plant will make ethylene glycols, derivatives of ethylene oxide.

Ethylene oxides widest use is as an "intermediate," that is, a chemical used to make other chemicals. About 100 derivatives of ethylene oxide have been used commercially.

One of these, ethylene glycol, is best known as the basic ingredient of all-winter antifreezes such as Prestone brand. It is also a solvent for stains, soluble oils, resins, and dyes softening and moistening tobacco and inks.

Another glycol to be produced at the plant, diethylene glycol, is widely used as a solvent, lubricant, and plasticizer. The remarkable ability of diethylene glycol to absorb moisture from the air makes it effective for co, cellophane, glues, and paper.

Polyethylene has come into widespread use since its development in World War II. It is used as a film to package frozen foods and fresh vegetables. The popular "squeeze bottle" container-dispensers for cosmetics and deodorants are made of polyethylene.

This tough, waxy plastic is also finding increased applications in industry. Pipe made of polyethylene is lightweight, flexible, and resistant to chemical action. Polyethylene is used as insulation in wiring systems and coaxial cables that transmit television broadcasts coast to coast.

Plant Superintendent C. N. Rucker and his staff of technical people are busy with preparations to get the new plant under way and supervise its operation.

Except for a small group of technical experts the majority of the plants employees were hired from Torrance and nearby communities.

## Harvey Participates in AF Heavy Press Program

Harvey Aluminum is the only plant on the West Coast that is participating in the Air Force heavy press program. The local metalworking company has just completed installation of an 8000 ton hydraulic extrusion press under the A. F. Program, and a huge 12,000 ton extrusion press is now being assembled in the Torrance mill.

The latter is the largest extrusion press ever built in this

country and is one of the largest in the world.

Located in the heart of the nation's aircraft industry, Harvey Aluminum will use these presses to extrude huge aluminum airframe sections. An extrusion is the product formed by pushing material through an orifice in a die.

## GROWING With TORRANCE...



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We are happy to be a part of the Torrance Industrial Family, proud too are we of the rapid growth and development of this City on such a sound basis.

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In the manufacture and development of pre-fabricated steel we are pleased to say that always have we been able to meet the highest specifications.

**COLUMBIA STRUCTURAL STEEL CO.**

2303 JEFFERSON AVE.

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

## What does CHEMICAL PROGRESS mean?

Just look around you! The landscape is full of signs of progress through chemistry. See the skylines of chemical plants like CARBIDE's. Fractionating towers, compressors, mazes of pipes—these are the instruments that can take raw materials and squeeze, expand, heat, and cool them until vital chemical products have been produced.

You don't even have to leave your home to know what Chemical Progress means to you. New "wonder drugs" protect you and your family. New plastics

keep your food fresher, longer. Chemicals in paints, polishes, detergents, and textiles make homeowners' and housewives' jobs easier.

CARBIDE's Torrance plant will be contributing to the flow of chemicals and plastics that are changing and improving your daily life. CARBIDE people are dreaming up new and better ways for chemicals to serve you. What does chemical progress mean? It means a good way of life for you today. It promises an even better one tomorrow!



**CARBIDE**

CARBIDE AND CARBON CHEMICALS COMPANY  
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Torrance, California